

KELLY THOMPSON ★ MARCO FERRARI ★ LEE LOUGHRIDGE

SCARLETT



image

#05



ENERGON UNIVERSE

CONFIDENTIAL



ALIAS

SCARLETT

ADDITIONAL FIELD OPERATIVES

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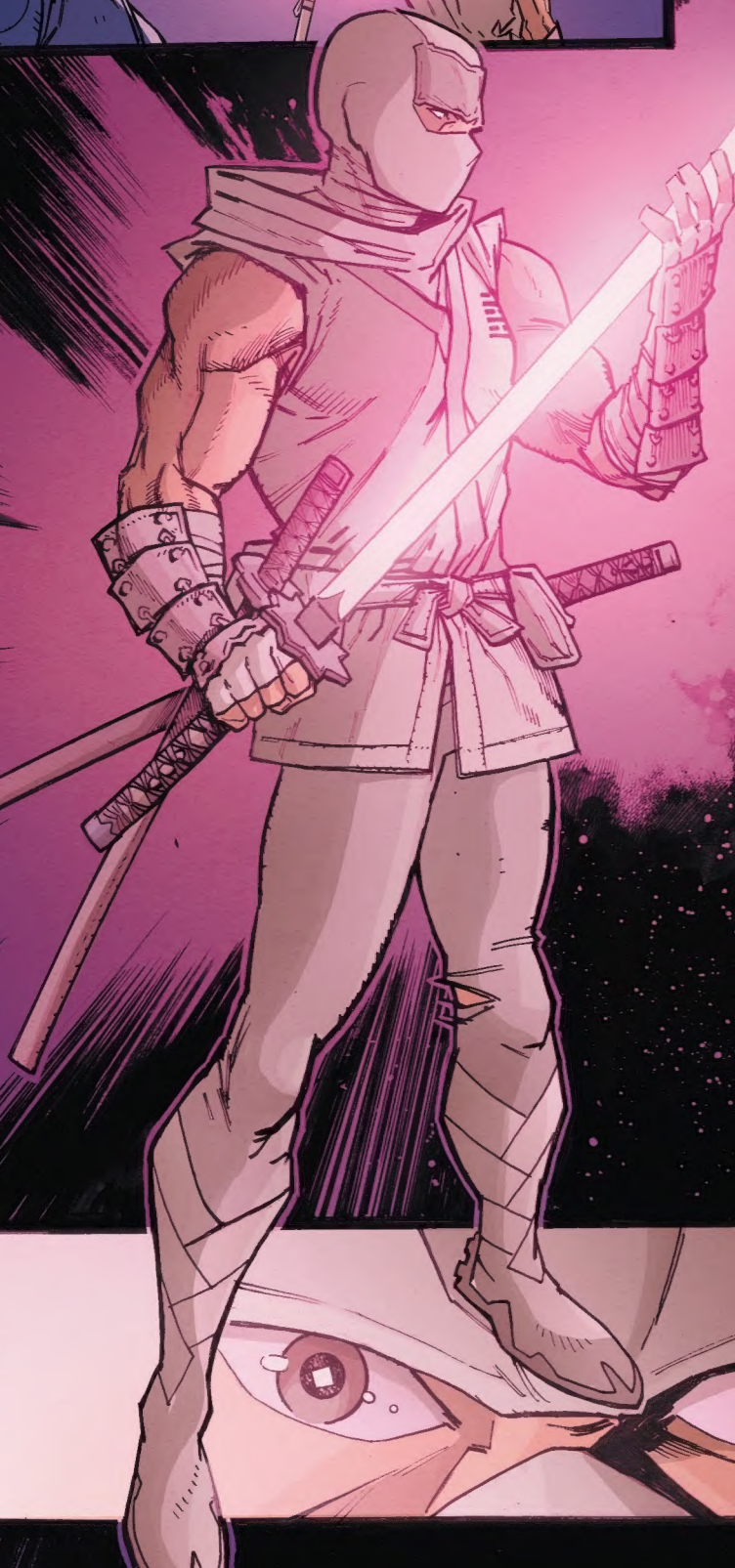


**THE SATO III:
SAKURA, FLOOR 48.**

NOW.



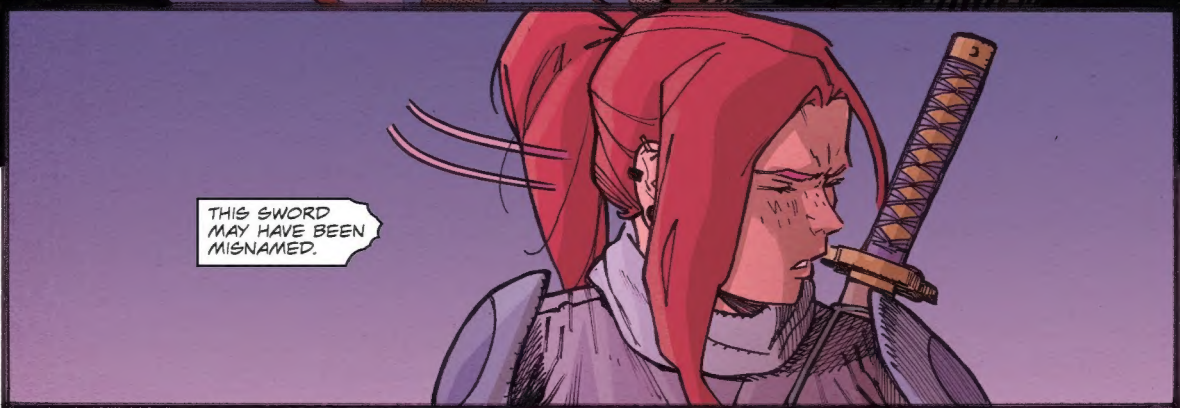
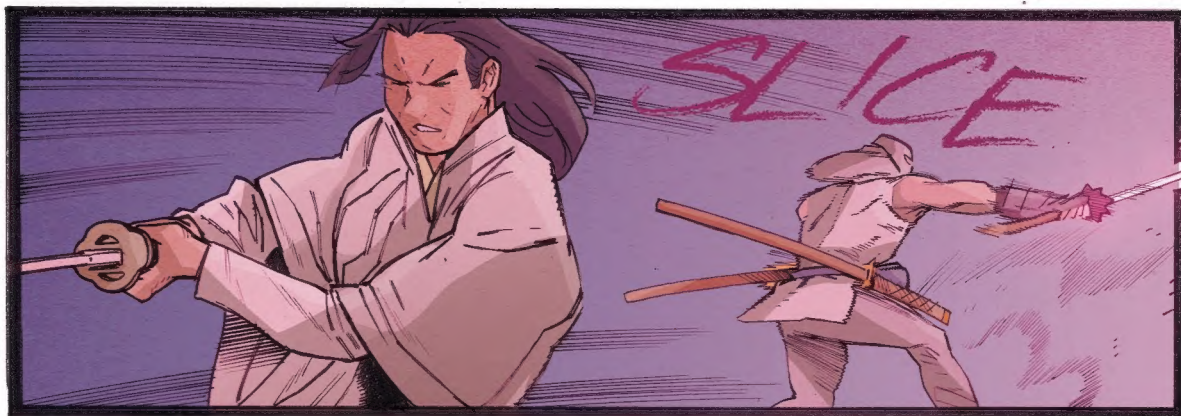
"INOCHI NO KEN"...
SWORD OF LIFE...

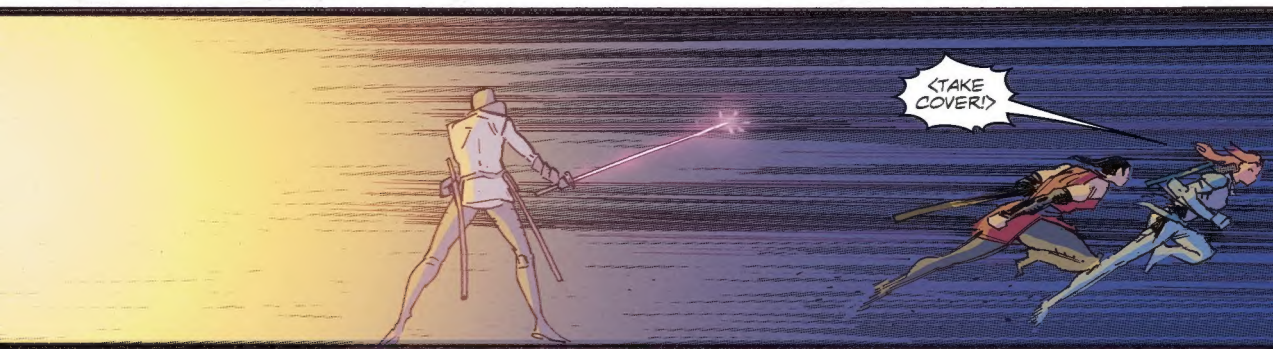
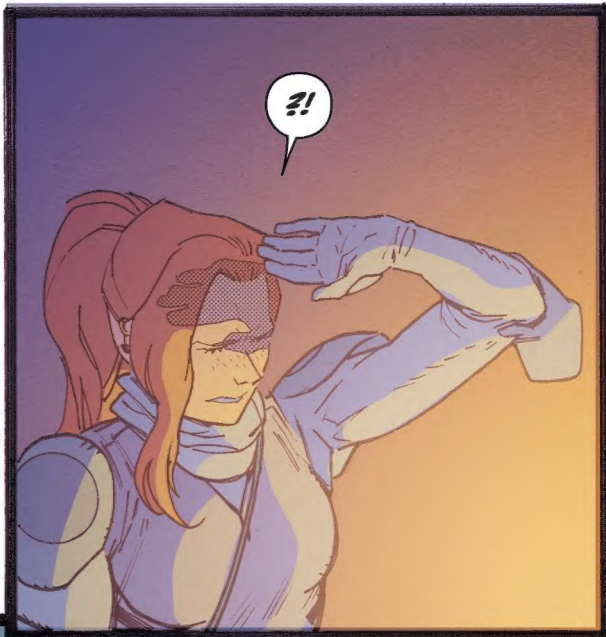


KUNHAND
THAT SWORD,
ARASHIKAGE, IT
DOES NOT
BELONG TO
YOU!>



<YOU COULD
NOT BE MORE
WRONG ABOUT
THAT...>

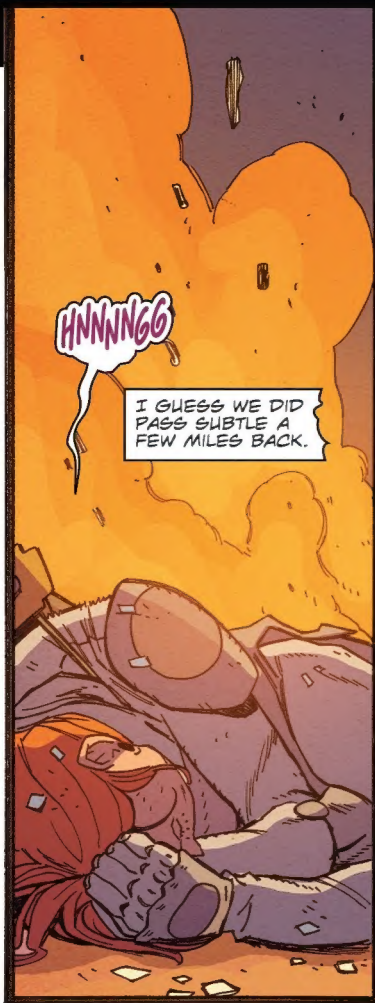






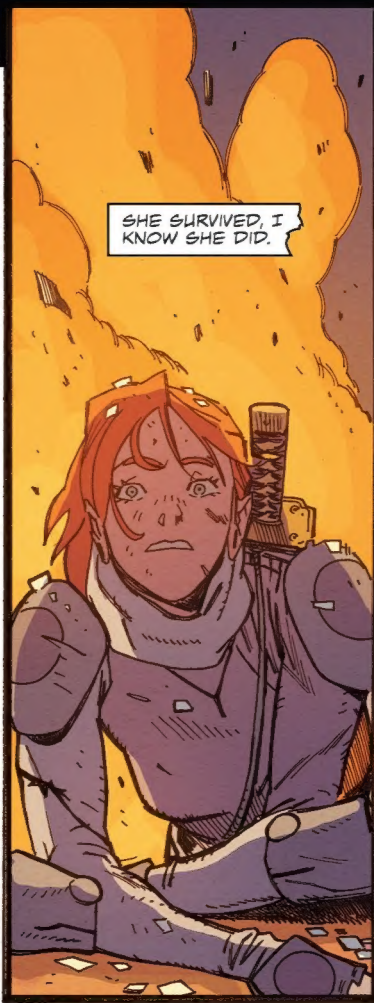


!KOFF!
!KOFF!

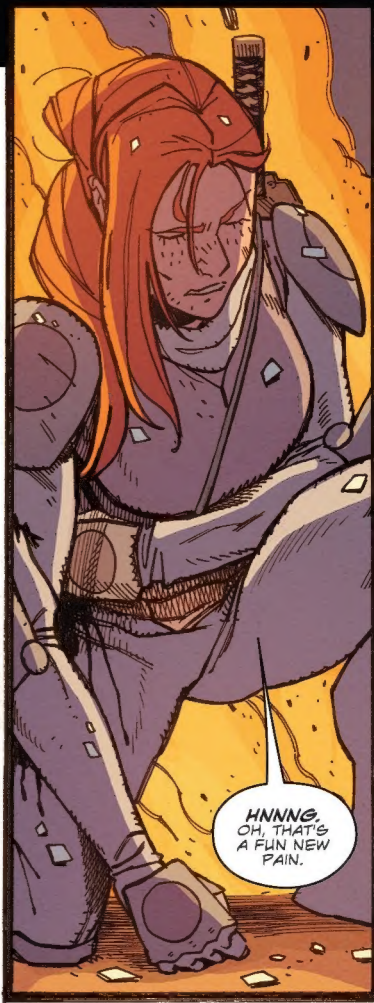


HNNNGG

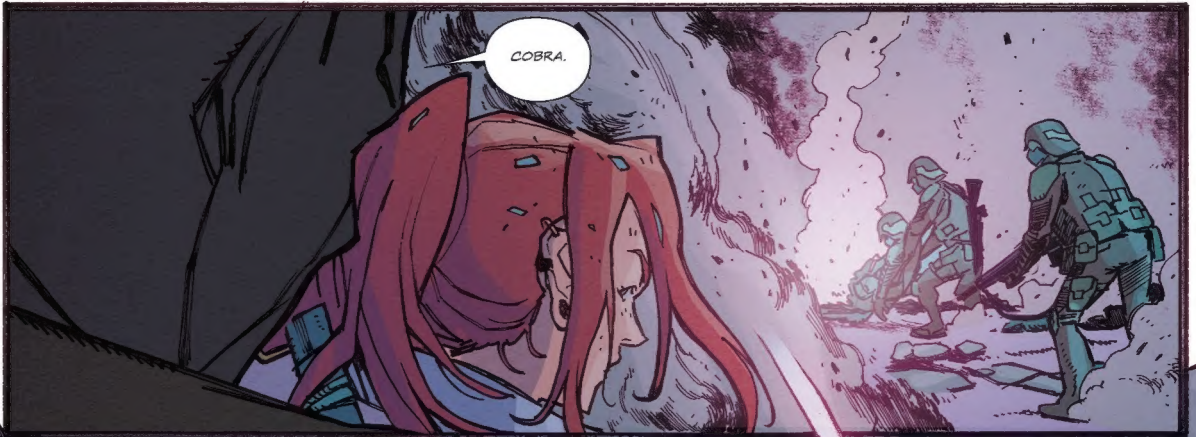
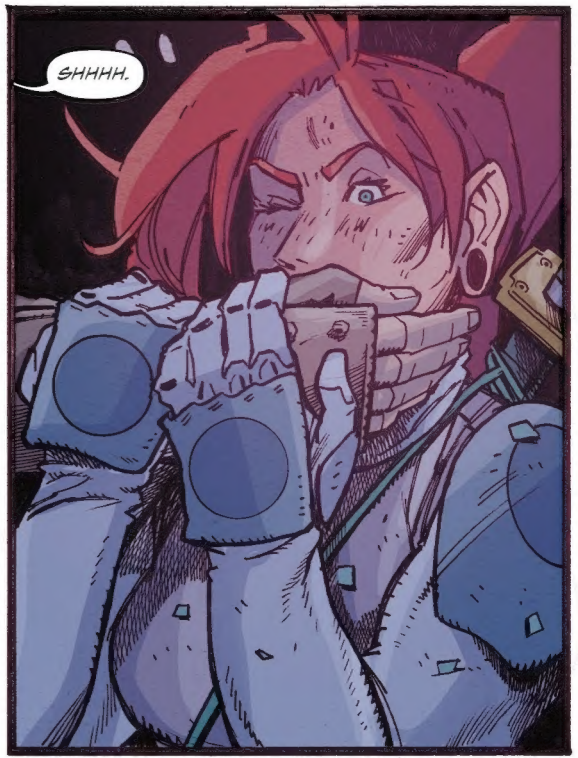
I GUESS WE DID
PASS SUBTLE A
FEW MILES BACK.



SHE SURVIVED, I
KNOW SHE DID.



HNNNG
OH, THAT'S
A FUN NEW
PAIN.





<THERE ARE TOO MANY. IF YOU WISH TO HOLD ONTO THAT SWORD, I RECOMMEND A HASTY EXIT, STORM SHADOW.>

<AGREED.>

<WE ONLY HAVE TWO CHUTES.>

<OH, GEE, I WONDER WHO DOESN'T GET A CHUTE?>

<NOBODY SAID THAT, SCARLETT.>

<DOESN'T SEEM LIKE YOU NEED TO BE A ROCKET SCIENTIST TO FIGURE IT OUT.>



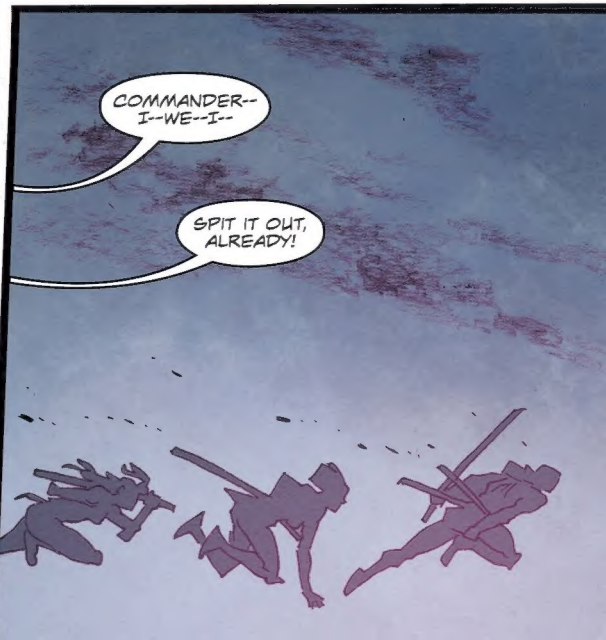
<STOP BICKERING. DUMP YOUR GEAR, AND THE TWO OF YOU SHOULD BE OKAY ON ONE CHUTE.>

<'SHOULD' IS A WORD I LOVE TO HEAR IN THIS SCENARIO. 'OKAY' ISN'T GREAT EITHER, WHILE WE'RE AT IT.>



<YOU KNOW, THERE IS GOING TO BE A **LIMIT** TO THE NUMBER OF TIMES I LET YOU TRY TO GET ME KILLED.>

<LET ME KNOW WHEN WE HIT THAT **LIMIT**.>



COMMANDER--
I--WE--I--

SPIT IT OUT,
ALREADY!



WE...WE HAVEN'T FOUND ANYONE YET, OR THE WEAPON, SIR. I--I THOUGHT YOU WERE WAITING UNTIL WE SECURED THE ROOM.

YES. BUT I'VE NO WISH TO WAIT FOREVER.

SO IT SEEMS I'LL HAVE TO DO IT MYSELF.

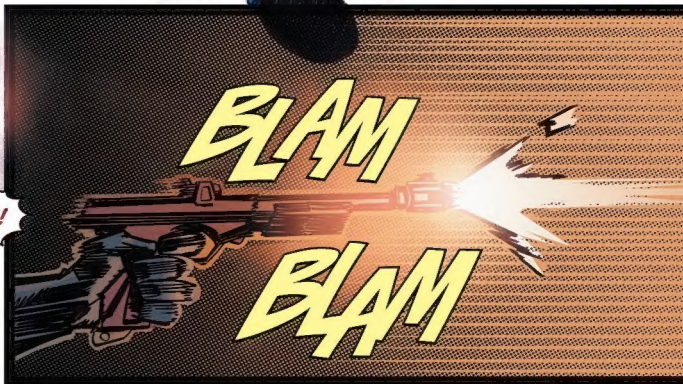
WHO IS THAT?

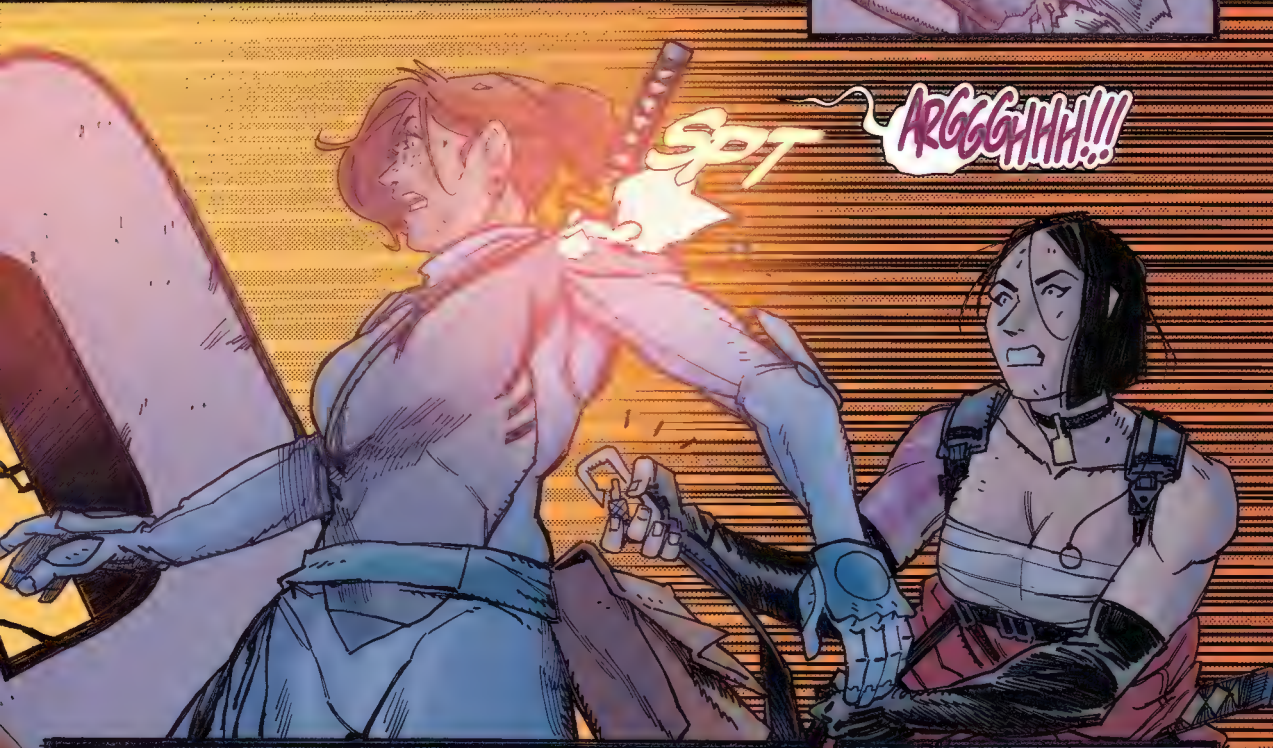
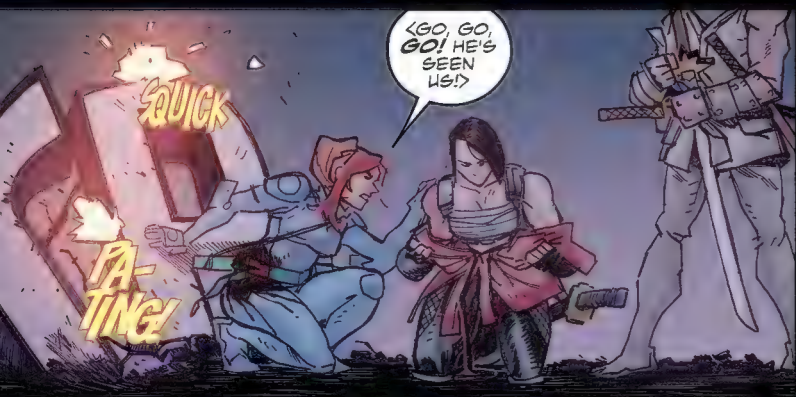


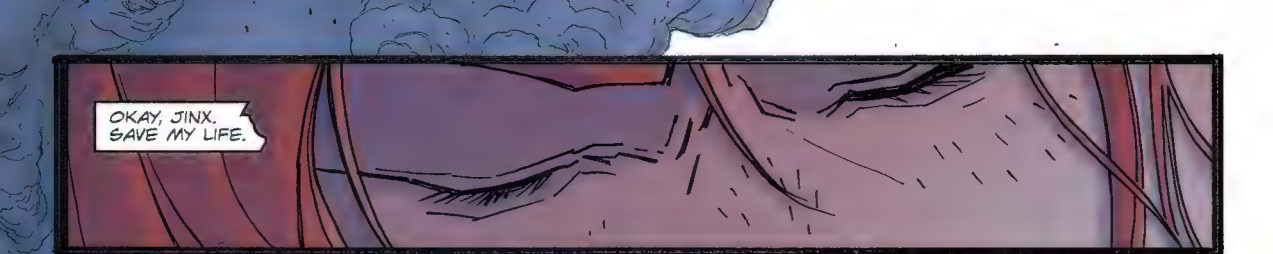
THERE. THE ENERGON IS COMING FROM THERE.

THERE ARE THE FOOLS WHO ARE TRYING TO TAKE IT.

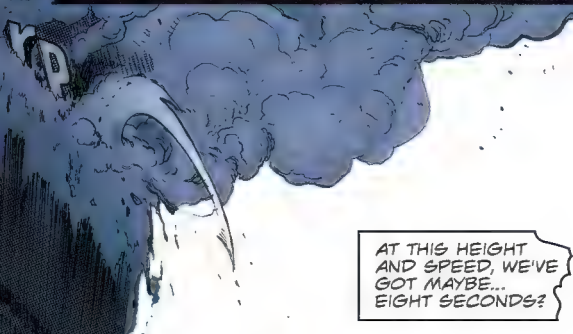
FIRE!







OKAY, JINX.
SAVE MY LIFE.



AT THIS HEIGHT
AND SPEED, WE'VE
GOT MAYBE...
EIGHT SECONDS?



PLEASE
PLEASE
PLEASE



SO
CLOSE
YOU CAN
ALMOST
TOUCH...





ALMOST...

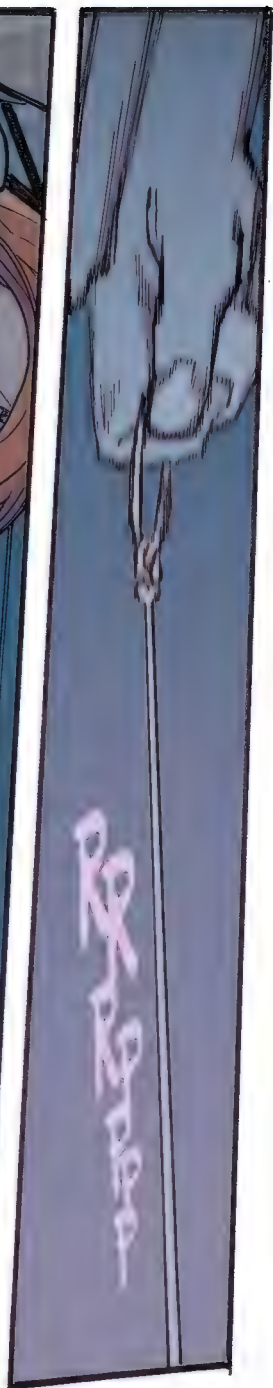


UNNNNG!

OOOMPH!



PULL IT!



Raaaaa

SHE'S SO GOOD.

HNNNNGG!

AHHH!





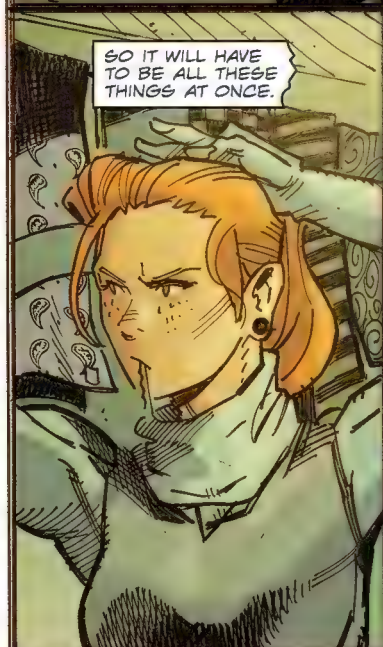
GREAT, SO I NOT ONLY HAVE TO HIDE FROM COBRA...



BUT STORM SHADOW MIGHT ALSO HAVE THE ARASHIKAGE FOLLOWING ME.



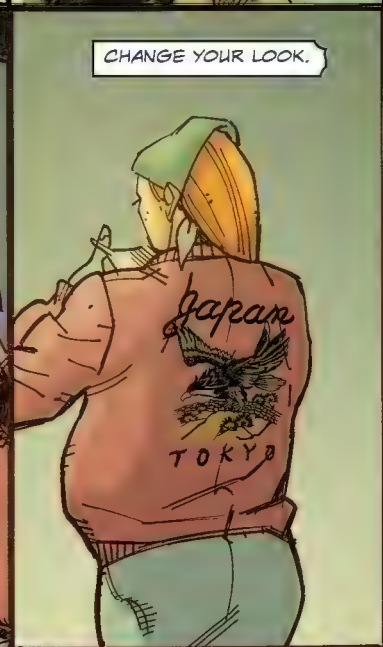
IT'S ALSO MAYBE MY ONLY CHANCE TO PASS INTEL TO SNOW JOB.



SO IT WILL HAVE TO BE ALL THESE THINGS AT ONCE.



NEVER SAY I DON'T ENJOY A CHALLENGE.



CHANGE YOUR LOOK.



MOVE.



BE NOBODY.



TRY NOT TO DIE.

**SOMEWHERE
IN TOKYO.**



STALKER
MAYBE WASN'T
THINKING
STRAIGHT WHEN
HE SENT *TWO*
REDHEADS
UNDERCOVER
HERE.

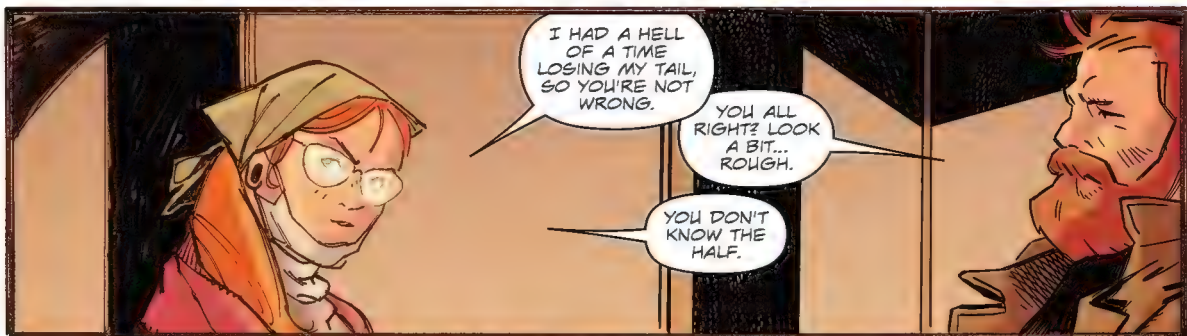
HEH.



I HAD A HELL
OF A TIME
LOSING MY TAIL,
SO YOU'RE NOT
WRONG.

YOU ALL
RIGHT? LOOK
A BIT...
ROUGH.

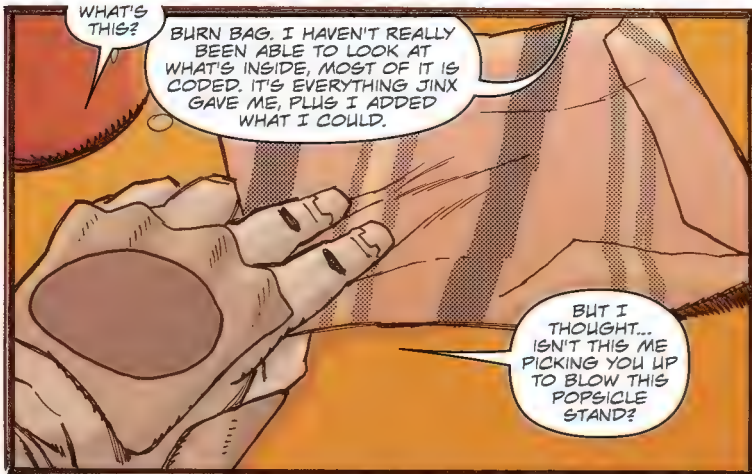
YOU DON'T
KNOW THE
HALF.



WHAT'S
THIS?

BURN BAG. I HAVEN'T REALLY
BEEN ABLE TO LOOK AT
WHAT'S INSIDE, MOST OF IT IS
CODED. IT'S EVERYTHING JINX
GAVE ME, PLUS I ADDED
WHAT I COULD.

BUT I
THOUGHT...
ISN'T THIS ME
PICKING YOU UP
TO BLOW THIS
POPSICLE
STAND?



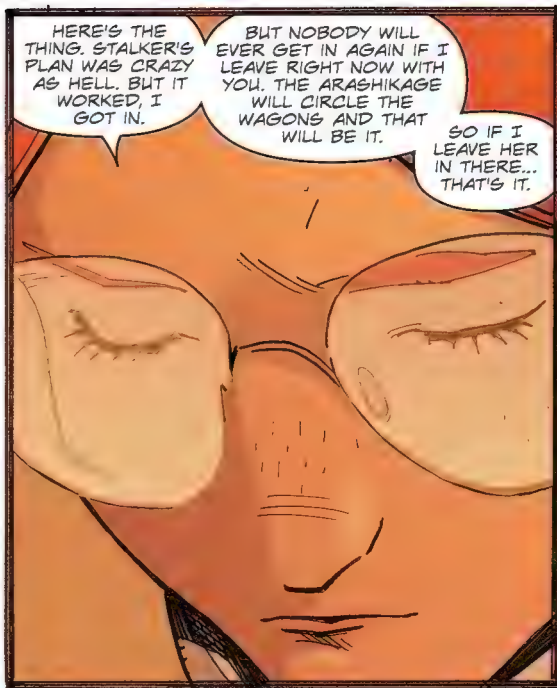
I-I CAN'T LEAVE
HER BEHIND.
HARLAN. I THOUGHT
I COULD, BUT I
CAN'T.





AH, HELL,
SHANA.

I
KNOW.



HERE'S THE
THING. STALKER'S
PLAN WAS CRAZY
AS HELL, BUT IT
WORKED, I
GOT IN.

BUT NOBODY WILL
EVER GET IN AGAIN IF I
LEAVE RIGHT NOW WITH
YOU. THE ARASHIKAGE
WILL CIRCLE THE
WAGONS AND THAT
WILL BE IT.

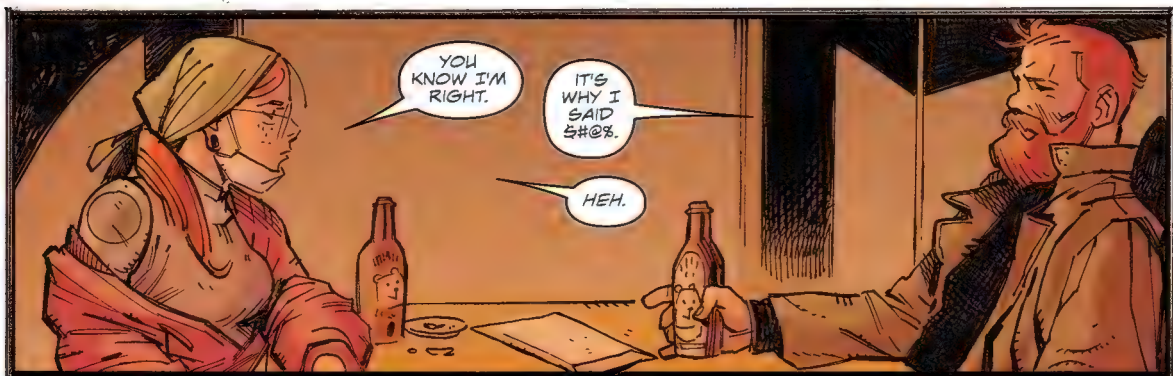
SO IF I
LEAVE HER
IN THERE...
THAT'S IT.



SHE'D BE ON
HER OWN FOR
HOWEVER LONG
IT TAKES. MAYBE
ALWAYS.

AND I
CAN'T HAVE
THAT,
HARLAN.

£#@%.



YOU
KNOW I'M
RIGHT.

IT'S
WHY I
SAID
£#@%.

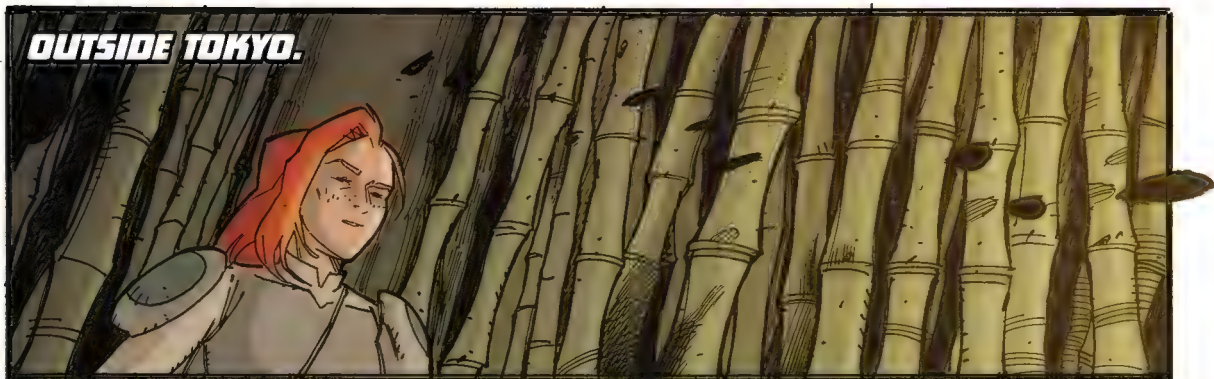
HEH.



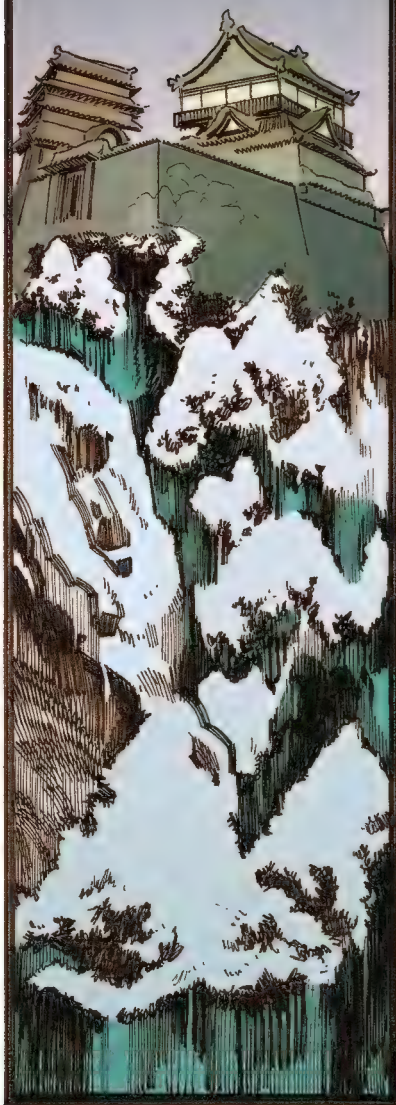
WHEN YOU LADIES ARE
READY...YOU CALL ME, I'LL
GET YOU OUT OF THERE
EVEN IF I HAVE TO BRING
EVERYONE.

THANKS,
HARLS.

OUTSIDE TOKYO.

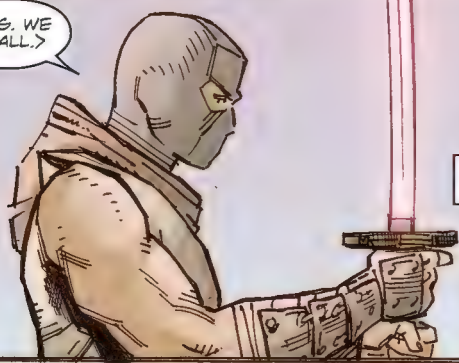


ARASHIKAGE STRONGHOLD.

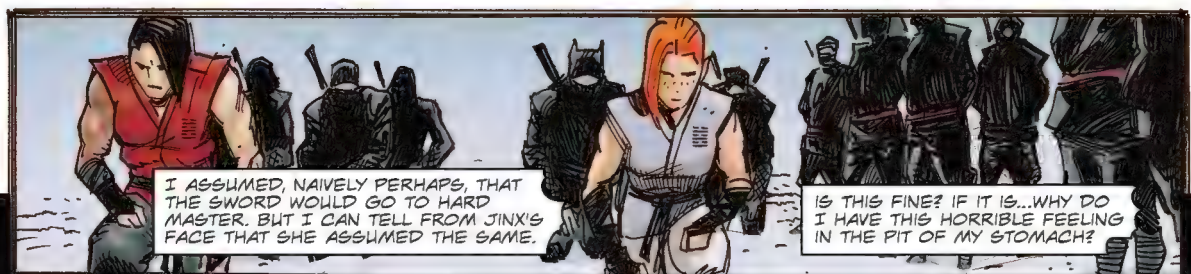




YES. WE SHALL.



THAT WAS... UNEXPECTED.



ARASHIKAGE!!!



ARASHIKAGE!!!



DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

GIJOE@SKYBOUND.COM

Welcome to our final letter column for Scarlett and what an absolute blast this series has been from start to finish! Before we jump to some letters, from Kelly, Marco, Lee, Rus and everyone here at Skybound, a great big **THANK YOU** for reading! We greatly appreciate your support, feedback, and enthusiasm and I hope you're along for the ride long term! And speaking of long term, as an added treat you'll find at the back of this comic a special preview for G.I. JOE #1, coming November 13th!

All right, let's check out a couple final letters!

Hello,

I wanted to take a moment and tell you all how amazing these G.I. Joe comics are. As a kid in the 80s, I was a huge fan of G.I. Joe. I watched the cartoon, played with the figures and read the comics. Your comics make me feel like a kid again. The stories are incredible and the artwork fantastic! I especially have enjoyed what you have done with Cobra Commander. He is absolutely ruthless! Duke is amazing and the direction you went with Baroness was so cool! I love the Scarlett comics as she has always been a favorite of mine, and you all turned it up a notch by including Jinx in the story! Wow! Keep up the good work!

Yo Joe!!
Brian
Montclair, VA

Thanks for the kind words and support, Brian. I would recommend checking out Destro, too, if you haven't already.

Dear Skybound Fam,

WOW! Your work on the Scarlett arc is exceptional! I love the long game on the Jinx infiltration, the first appearance of Storm Shadow, and all the good covert ops, clandestine spycraft and action. The pacing is perfect, the story superb and the art's not bad either. It would've been nice to see Jinx rock her blindfold, tho? Maybe next issue (#splashpage)?

I feel like current circumstances could deliver Slice and Dice and/or some Night Creepers as well, I'd be SO ecstatic to see those guys show up. But if I get one ask, it's gotta be give me Chuckles-- stringy haired, untucked Hawaiian shirt Chuckles in trail shoes. Wouldn't hate it if you took five books to tell that story, either! Do 'em all, you're printing money as it is. You keep me coming back and for a guy that had pretty much gotten out of comics here I am writing to a letters page like

it's 1990 all over again! Yo Joe and my sincerest appreciation for all you do!

JP
Baltimore, MD

Thanks, JP! Glad to have you back in comics and writing letters. Jinx in a blindfold would have been pretty awesome but who knows what the future might hold for her...and a Chuckles series, Hmm...I like that idea...

Long time reader, first time letter writer.

When I first heard about this new EU being born and a promise to shake things up with TFs and Joes and I decided to give it a shot. I never read the Marvel series. Growing up in the 80s, born 1978, I was all into the usual toy lines but the Joes had a special place in my soul even to this day. Cool, specially skilled soldiers with even cooler equipment fighting the classic good vs evil situation; what's not to love?!

I've read all the character books (Destro and Scarlet are my favorites) and really enjoying how the whole team of artists and writers have been able to "transform", pun intended, this old cartoon into a realistic setting with realistic characters while weaving the spirit of the Joes and Cobra into it all. I can't wait till the Joes and the Transformers get more intertwined.

I grew out of my toys but came back to the Joes not long ago when Renegade Games debuted G.I. Joe Deckbuilder a few years ago. I've been a modern tabletop gamer for a decade now. I have all the expansions and the campaign expansion of Raise the Flag was the best so far. I felt like an awesome Choose Your Own Adventure with me commanding the Joes.

For all the Joe fans reading this you owe it to yourself to check that game out.

Yo Joe!
Brian A. Thompson, USAF Retired.

Good to hear from you, Brian, thanks for supporting our line and I love this is now your first printed letter, too! Everyone involved with the Energon Universe has worked really hard to build out these plans and even well over a year into this line, we're still just seeing the tip of the iceberg...there's SO much cool stuff coming, I can't wait for you to check out G.I. Joe #1 in November...and I'll look into that game as it sounds like a blast!

Thanks for reading, everyone, and keep the letters coming...Yo Joe!

--Ben

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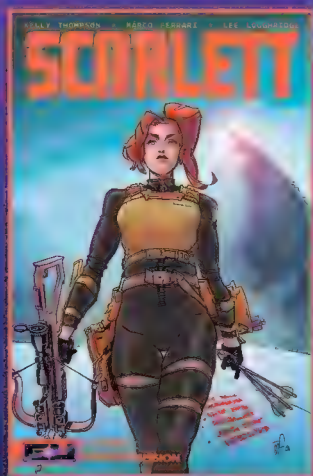
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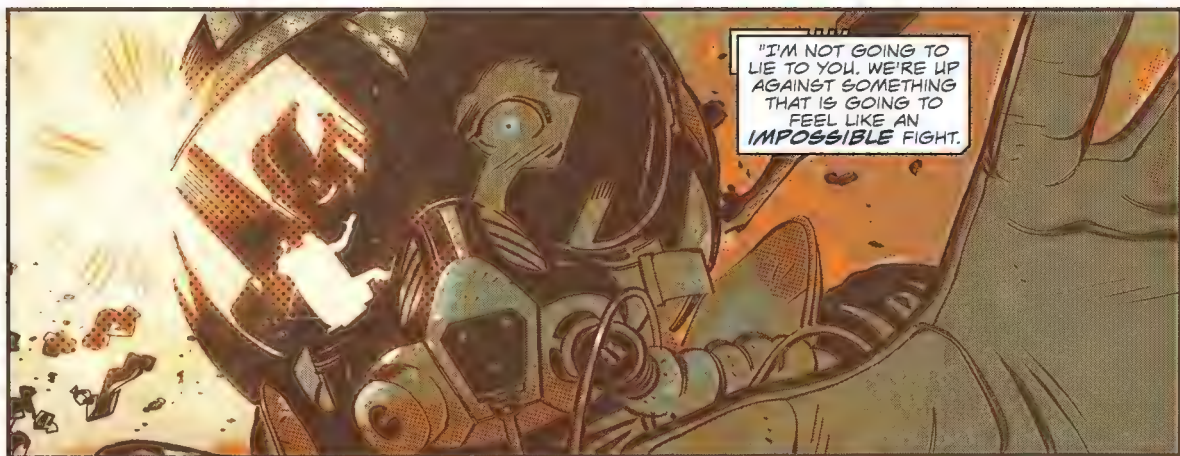


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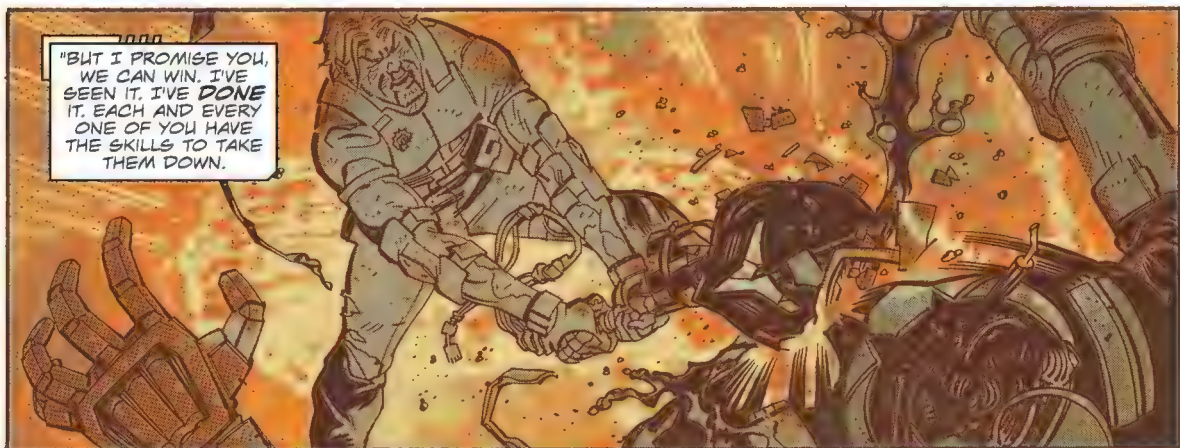




"I'M NOT GOING TO LIE TO YOU. WE'RE UP AGAINST SOMETHING THAT IS GOING TO FEEL LIKE AN IMPOSSIBLE FIGHT."



"THE ENEMY IS UNPREDICTABLE. DANGEROUS. THEY NOT ONLY WANT US DEAD, THEY PUT THE FREEDOM OF THE WORLD AT RISK."



"BUT I PROMISE YOU, WE CAN WIN. I'VE SEEN IT. I'VE **DONE** IT. EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU HAVE THE SKILLS TO TAKE THEM DOWN."

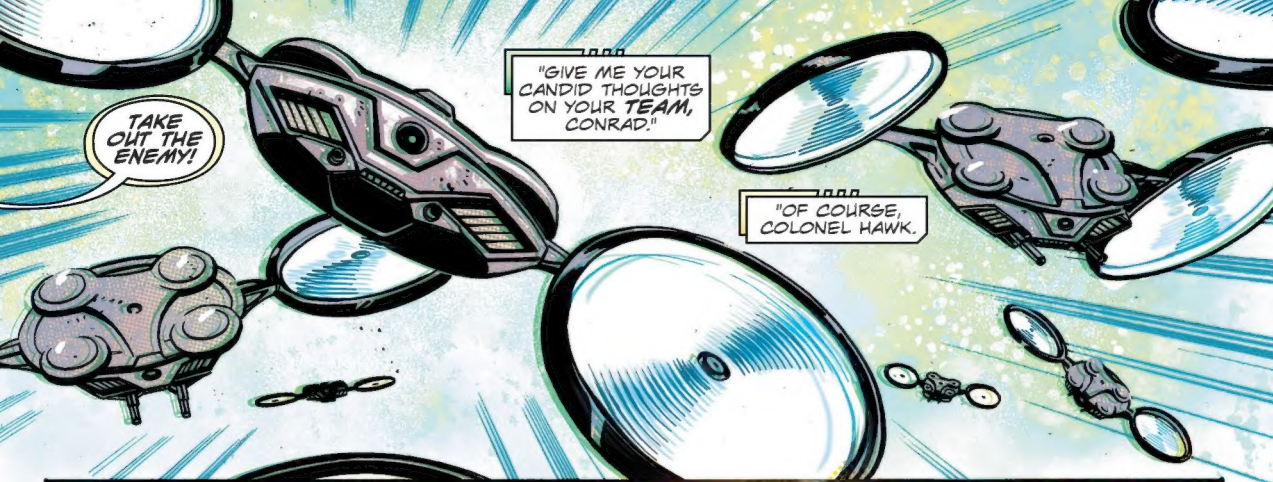


"THE ONLY WAY WE LOSE IS IF WE GIVE UP."

"BUT YOU ARE THE BEST OF THE BEST...SO..."



**LISTEN UP,
SOLDIERS!**
HERE IS
YOUR
OBJECTIVE...



TAKE
OUT THE
ENEMY!

"GIVE ME YOUR
CANDID THOUGHTS
ON YOUR TEAM,
CONRAD."

"OF COURSE,
COLONEL HAWK."



"ROCK
N'ROLL."



"CRAIG S. MCCONNEL.
SPECIALIZES IN
HEAVY ARTILLERY.
TOP OF HIS CLASS."

"BUT THAT'S JUST HIS FILE.
YOU SPEND ANY TIME WITH
HIM, AND YOU CAN SEE HE'S
GOT A BIG HEART AND LOYAL
TO THE DAY HE DIES."



"STALKER."

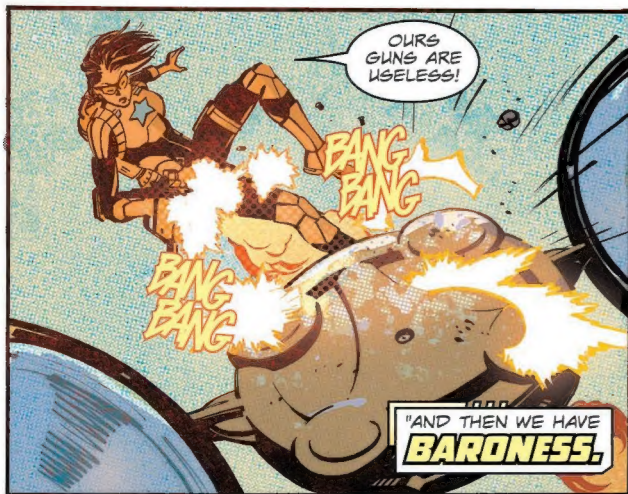
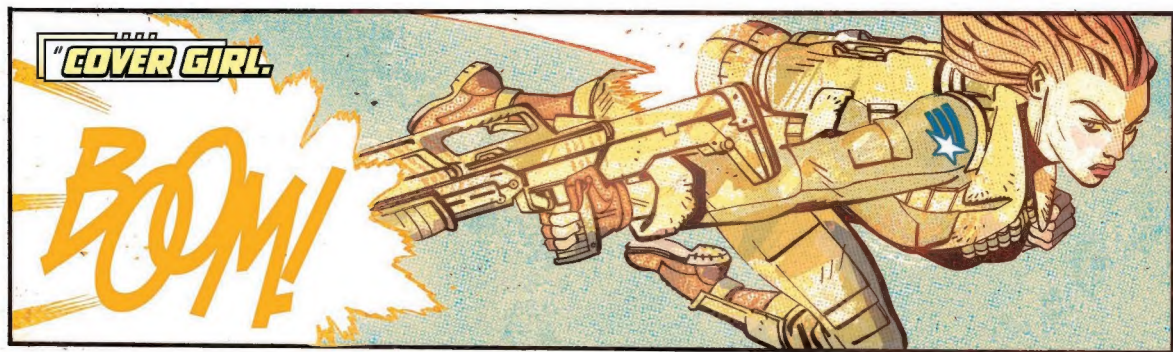
BANG BANG BANG BANG

BANG BANG BANG BANG

"AS DEADLY AS LONZO
WILKINSON CAN BE IN ANY GIVEN
SITUATION, HE ALSO KNOWS
HOW TO DEFUSE THEM."



"IT EXPLAINS HOW HE KNOWS SO MANY
DIFFERENT LANGUAGES. HE'S GOT A WAY
WITH TALKING TO PEOPLE IN THE SAME WAY
HE KNOWS HOW TO HANDLE A WEAPON."



TO BE
CONTINUED
IN
GI JOE
ISSUE #1
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